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(U) COUNTRY: IRAQ SUBJ: TAKE 3 OF 4--IRAQI COMMANDER MEMOIRS ON MISSILES (6)

(U) REF: JN2511082498 AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 5 NOV 98 P 11 /// OF BRIGADE 224.

(U) SOURCE: AMMAN AL-'ARAB AL-YAWM IN ARABIC 5 NOV 98 P 11 TEXT:

(U) THERE WAS JUBILATION AMONG THE MEN AROUND ME AT THE HEADQUARTERS SHELTER. FOR THEY JUMPED WITH JOY AND HUGGED ONE ANOTHER. THE MEN WERE: STAFF BRIGADIER GENERAL 'ABD-AL-QADIR 'ABBAS, HEAD OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF TRAINING BRANCH; COLONEL ENGINEER HISHAM MUHAMMAD, HEAD OF THE TECHNICAL BRANCH; COLONEL GHANIM AHMAD, ASSISTANT HEAD OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF BRANCH; COLONEL ENGINEER MAJID MAHMUD, WARRANT OFFICER; COLONEL NABIL RAJAB, TRAINING OFFICER; LIEUTENANT COLONEL MAHMUD WAHIB, SECURITY OFFICER; FIRST LIEUTENANT DR. MA'AN 'ABD-AL-RAHMAN; AND CAPTAIN FARIS HAZIM, MOVEMENTS OFFICER WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF PREPARING AND FOLLOWING UP MISSILE STRIKE CHARTS. THEY CONTINUED TO FOLLOW THE SITUATION, WHILE I CONCENTRATED ON WRITING MY REPORT ON THE FIRST STRIKE ON THE ZIONIST ENTITY AND SENDING A GREETINGS MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE REPORT SAID: THE PLAN WAS TO FIRE EIGHT MISSILES ON TEL AVIV AND SIX MISSILES ON HAIFA AT 0230 HOURS. BUT, ONLY EIGHT MISSILES WERE FIRED AT 0310 HOURS FOR TECHNICAL REASONS. HOWEVER, PREPARATIONS ARE UNDER WAY TO CARRY OUT THE SECOND STRIKE AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY. IT WILL TAKE PLACE, GOD WILLING, AT 0045 ON 19 JANUARY. THE THIRD STRIKE WILL TAKE PLACE AT 0200 ON 20 JANUARY. WE ASSEMBLED ALL THE NECESSARY MATERIALS FOR THE TWO STRIKES. MAY REPORT ALSO SAID: THE ENEMY CONTINUED ITS INTENSIVE STRIKES, BUT OUR UNITS GOT ON WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR DUTIES. WE HAD AIR COMBAT PATROLS READY TO PROTECT US, BUT THEY DID NOT TAKE OFF BEFORE LAUNCHING. ONE OFFICER AND SEVERAL MEN RECEIVED SLIGHT INJURIES DUE TO RANDOM BOMBING OF ROADS NEAR

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OUR POSITIONS. THE OFFICERS TOLD ME THAT SOME ENEMY AIRCRAFT ALMOST COLLIDED WITH OUR MISSILES AS THEY TOOK OFF VERTICALLY FROM THEIR LAUNCHING PADS. BUT THE ENEMY PLANES DID NOT SEE THEM. THE PRESIDENT READ THE REPORT, BLESSED OUR EFFORTS, AND REQUESTED THAT I CONVEY HIS GREETINGS TO THE MISSILE MEN AND HUG THEM ONE BY ONE. HE ALSO ORDERED THE SECOND STRIKE ON CRIMINAL ISRAEL AND PRAYED TO GOD FOR PROTECTION AND SUPPORT. HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF ADDRESSED US IN THIS BEAUTIFUL STYLE: "GOD BLESS THE BRAVE MEN OF THE MISSILE CORPS. MY GREETINGS TO THEM. EMBRACE THEM ONE BY ONE. CARRY OUT THE SECOND STRIKE ON CRIMINAL ISRAEL AND MAY GOD PROTECT YOU AND GIVE YOU SUPPORT. IF YOU THINK THAT THE ENEMY IS PREPARING TO RETALIATE, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DELAY THE STRIKE FOR ANOTHER TIME." (MORE) 5 NOV [redacted] HIS EXCELLENCY (b)(3)
ALSO ORDERED US TO PLAN A SIMILAR STRIKE AGAINST ENEMY TARGETS IN SAUDI ARABIA WITH MASSIVE EFFECT AND REDUCE CASUALTIES AMONG OUR MEN. THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS ALWAYS REFLECT ARAB HISTORY AND ISLAMIC TEACHINGS. HIS ORDER TODAY SAID: "AVOID THE HOLY CITIES OF MECCA AND MEDINA. NO ENEMY TARGETS THERE MUST BE ATTACKED." THAT EVENING THE WORLD HEARD THE REACTION TO OUR FIRST STRIKE AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY. ARABS EVERYWHERE CHEERED FOR THE LONG LIFE OF THE LEADER WHO FULFILLED ARAB DREAMS OF DESTROYING THE MYTH OF "INVINCIBLE ISRAEL." HE MADE IT AN OCCASION OF A GREAT JUBILATION IN NOBLE ARAB HOMES. WE ALL HEARD GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUI NO. 4 ON 18 JANUARY 1991 SPEAKING ABOUT OUR FIRST HISTORIC STRIKE. I ISSUED ORDERS TO IMPLEMENT "PLAN 18 JANUARY," WHICH AS THE NAME I GAVE TO THE SECOND STRIKE. IT EXPLAINED HOW TO CARRY OUT THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF PRECISELY. WE MANEUVERED WITH ONLY A FEW MISSILES AND A LIMITED NUMBER OF LAUNCHERS. WHEN WE HELD TALKS WITH THE UN INSPECTION TEAMS IN 1992, THEY SIMPLY COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE IDEA THAT WE MANEUVERED WITH ONLY A LIMITED NUMBER OF LAUNCHERS FROM WEST TO SOUTH AND VICE VERSA. THEY THOUGHT THAT WE HAD DOUBLE THE NUMBER. BRIGADE 224 ASSIGNED THREE TO FOUR LAUNCHERS FOR ATTACK ON TARGETS IN TEL AVIV AND TWO FOR ATTACK ON TARGETS IN HAIFA. BRIGADE 223 ALSO ASSIGNED TWO LAUNCHERS FOR ATTACK ON TARGETS IN TEL AVIV AND TWO FOR TARGETS IN HAIFA. THE LAUNCHERS AVAILABLE TO BRIGADES 224 AND 223 WERE THEN MOVED TO THE SOUTH TO STRIKE AT TARGETS THERE. BRIGADE 224 HAD TWO MISSILES LEFT OVER FROM THE PREVIOUS NIGHT AND BRIGADE 223 FOUR MISSILES. BRIGADE 224 LOADED FOUR TO FIVE LAUNCHERS FROM THE REGION OF AL-RAMADI AND MOVE THEM TO AL-KUT FOR THE NEXT TASK. I ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS THAT WHOEVER FIRES FROM THE WEST MUST QUICKLY RETURN TO AL-RAMADI, WEST OF BAGHDAD, TO PACK FUELED MISSILES AND MOVE TO THE SOUTH. THE VEHICLES USED BY BRIGADE 223 DIFFERED VERY MUCH FROM THOSE WITH BRIGADE 224. AFTER EVERY FIRING, THESES VEHICLES HAD TO PACK FUELED MISSILES FROM AL-RAMADI AND MOVE SOUTH TO AL'AMARAH, MAYSAN GOVERNORATE. WE ALL HAD TO BE CAREFUL WHEN PASSING THROUGH BAGHDAD. I INSTRUCTED THE FIRST MAINTENANCE UNIT NOT TO CHANGE ITS POSITION AND CONTINUE TO KEEP MISSILES READY. I ALSO INSTRUCTED IT NOT TO MOVE SPECIAL (CHEMICAL) WARHEADS TO AL-RAMADI. I BRIEFED EVERYONE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ORDERS IN DETAIL TO INSURE SOUND IMPLEMENTATION. I THEN TURNED TO PLANNING THE PRESIDENT'S ORDER FOR THE THIRD STRIKE. I SUBMITTED MY PROPOSED PLAN FOR THE THIRD STRIKE INDICATING THAT WE WOULD REPEAT THE STRIKE AGAINST THE ZIONIST ENTITY WITH SEVEN TO NINE MISSILES AT 0130 HOURS. AS TO THE PLAN FOR ENEMY TARGETS ON SAUDI TERRITORY, IT WAS AS FOLLOWS: SIX MISSILES ON ENEMY TARGETS IN THE REGION OF RIYADH. FOUR MISSILES ON ENEMY TARGETS IN THE REGION OF DHAHRAN. TWO MISSILES ON ENEMY TARGETS IN THE REGION OF AL-JUBAYL. TWO MISSILES ON ENEMY TARGETS IN THE REGION OF AL-

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DAMMAM. THEY WILL BE ATTACKED ON THE NIGHT OF 30-31 JANUARY FROM PREVIOUSLY FIXED POSITIONS IN SOUTHERN IRAQ. (MORE) 5 NOV [redacted] (MORE) (b)(3)
END OF MESSAGE UNCLASSIFIED

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